PENRITH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
LIBRARY

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1973

Mansion House,
PENRITH,
Cumberland,
CA11 7YG.

March, 1974.

To the Chairman and Members of
The Penrith Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health

I wish to present the Annual Report of the Health of the community for the year 1973.

I am pleased to include in the Report the contribution of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

My thanks go to Members of the Council, to my Colleagues in other Departments of the Council and the Staff of the Health Department for their help and co-operation during the year.

This Report is being prepared to meet the requirements shown in Circular CMO/2/74, dated 22nd February, 1974.

JOHN CONNOLLY

Medical Officer of Health

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

John Connolly, M.D., D.P.H.,

(Also Northern Area Medical Officer, Cumberland County)

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

Colin Wilding, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

Guy H. Duxbury, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERK/SHORTHAND TYPIST:

Mrs. Joan Wilson

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of District (in acres)	181,531
Number of Inhabited Houses	4,000
Rateable Value	£836,060
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£7,813
Registrar General's estimate of the population mid year 1973	11,180

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the population at mid year 1973, was 11,180 being an increase of 40 over the year, 1972.

VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths	Males	Females	Total
Deaths of all Ages	74	50	124

These figures represent deaths reported to the Health Committee during the year and are for correction in due course.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

One Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) was transferred from London, making a total number of Tuberculosis patients on the Register of 20 (8 males and 12 females).

The total number of notifications of infectious diseases at 6 represents a reduction from 17 in the previous year.

There have been no outstanding problems with infectious diseases during 1973.

Notification of Infectious Diseases - 1973 in Age Groups

Diseases	Ages	-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	30-	45-	55-	65-	Total
Dysentery	.. .. ..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	.. .. ..	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Scarlet Fever	.. ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	.. ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	.. ..	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Laboratory Services

The Public Health Laboratory at the Cumberland Infirmary under the direction of Dr. D. G. Davies, has been responsible for all the necessary services. I am most grateful to Dr. Davis for his assistance during the year.

2. Ambulance Facilities

The Ambulance facilities in East Cumberland which includes the Penrith Rural District is a directly operated service and the responsibility of the County Council as the Health Authority.

3. Nursing in the Home

The County Council as the Health Authority provide all the necessary facilities.

REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH

INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of

the Penrith Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting this short Report on the work of the Department during the year, 1973.

COLIN WILDING

Chief Public Health Inspector

Water Supplies

The major part of the area is well served by chlorinated mains water supplies, the Eden Water Board being the responsible Authority.

Fluoridation is not carried out.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The new treatment works for the village of Langwathby were completed within the year and new schemes were in the design stage for Penruddock, Motherby, Catterlen and Newton Reigny.

Refuse Collection

A weekly collection service is given to the majority of the villages in the area, two vehicles being used and five men.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Regular inspections are made of all the premises where food is handled for sale, particularly the hotels and the catering industry.

During the year 3 cwt. 84 lbs of food was condemned as unfit for human consumption.

There is one poultry processing premises within the area where regular visits are made and spot inspections of birds are carried out. 300,000 birds were processed in the year.

Milk supplies in the area are periodically checked and sampled and particularly the untreated supplies which predominate in a rural area.

Meat Inspection

There is one licensed slaughterhouse at Kirkoswald, where a total of 871 carcases were slaughtered and inspected during the year.

The quality of meat from this slaughterhouse is excellent.

Factories Act, 1961

Only a few minor incidences came to light where offences under the Regulations were dealt with.

Housing and Slum Clearance

Sixteen houses were the subject of Closing Orders or Undertakings and two houses were demolished.

There were a total of 55 houses made fit by the owners of the properties, 20 of these properties having been the subject of Closing Orders.

Caravan and Camping

A total number of 588 caravans were licensed in the area, these being on the 46 sites.

Conditions were generally satisfactory on all of the sites and no major problems were found.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Council employ a part time Rodent Operator who deals with all the Council's refuse tips and sewage works, and complaints from private householders.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

One new premises was registered during the year, bringing the total number of registered premises to 46, and 24 of these having received visits during the year.

There has been little cause for complaint during these inspections and generally speaking the premises are small in the rural area, and the staff occupy reasonable premises and have good working conditions.